

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Colorado's 2006 population was 4,753,377 (US Census Bureau estimate, Dec. 2006).

- Colorado added one million new residents between 1990 and 2000, and has added almost 350,000 since the 2000 Census.
- Colorado ranks 22nd in population among all states.

The following table shows the population census counts, estimates, and projections for Colorado, major Metropolitan Statistical Areas, and regions, from 2000 to 2035.

### COLORADO POPULATION (2000-2035)

REGION	2000 July 1 Estimate	2005 Projection	2010 Projection	2025 Projection	2035 Projection
COLORADO	4,338,789	4,722,460	5,209,892	6,787,307	7,798,107
Front Range	3,538,755	3,866,821	4,250,200	5,425,645	6,195,569
• Denver/Boulder Region	2,418,292	2,627,314	2,850,055	3,543,553	3,954,344
• Greeley MSA	183,560	228,729	264,853	419,741	551,288
• Ft. Collins MSA	253,131	271,990	296,519	403,147	473,223
• Colorado Springs MSA	541,718	587,689	672,582	849,468	973,313
• Pueblo MSA	142,054	151,099	166,191	209,736	243,401
Western Slope	468,368	513,062	585,313	854,379	1,026,411
Central Mountains	126,179	131,784	147,571	217,820	250,965
San Luis Valley	46,416	48,521	51,720	61,728	67,242
Eastern Plains	159,071	162,272	175,088	227,735	257,920

*Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs, State Demographer's Office, November 2006*

*For more detailed population information, please see State Demography website –*

[http://dola.colorado.gov/dlg/demog/pop\\_colo\\_forecasts.html](http://dola.colorado.gov/dlg/demog/pop_colo_forecasts.html)

### Composition Of Regions

- **Front Range** includes Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Pueblo, and Weld counties.
- **Western Slope** includes Archuleta, Delta, Dolores, Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Jackson, La Plata, Mesa, Moffat, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, San Juan, San Miguel, and Summit counties.
- **Central Mountains** includes Chaffee, Clear Creek, Custer, Fremont, Gilpin, Huerfano, Lake, Las Animas, Park, and Teller counties.
- **San Luis Valley** includes Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache counties.



Colorado's population is projected to increase by over three million people between 2005 and 2035. In-migration to Colorado typically accounts for nearly sixty percent of total population growth. The remaining share of added population is attributed to natural increase - births minus deaths. Net in-migration is difficult to predict, as it fluctuates widely with both the regional and national economies, and other factors such as retirees moving in, people moving for quality of life and other intangibles.

**BASIC DEMOGRAPHICS**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>COLORADO</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
Median Age (2006)	35.4 (41 <sup>st</sup> )	36.4
Percent of Population Under Age 18	25.8%	25.4%
Percent of Population Over Age 65	9.7%	12.1%
<b><i>Race/Ethnicity (U.S. Census, 2005 Estimate)</i></b>		
Percent White (non-Hispanic)	71.9%	66.8%
Percent Black	3.6%	12.1%
Percent American Indian	0.9%	0.8%
Percent Asian	2.6%	4.3%
Percent Two or more races	2.6%	1.9%
Percent Hispanic (of any race)	19.5%	14.5%
<b><i>Labor Force Participation, Population Age 16 and Over (U.S. Census, 2006)</i></b>		
Percent in Labor Force	72.8%	69.2%
<b><i>Educational Attainment, Age 25 and Over (U.S. Census, 2006)</i></b>		
Percent College Grads (or higher)	34.3% (Ranks 3rd in the nation)	27%
Percent High School Grads (or higher)	88% (Ranks 17 <sup>th</sup> in the nation)	84.1%
<b><i>Income</i></b>		
Median Household Income, 2006	\$52,015	\$48,451
Per Capita Income, 2006	\$39,186 (Ranks 7 <sup>th</sup> in the nation)	\$36,276

*Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2006, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Demography Office, Colorado Department of Labor & Employment.*

**Further Information can be found at the Colorado Economic and Demographic Information System:**  
<http://www.dola.state.co.us/is/cedishom.htm>